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KENNEDY RIFLE (180)

WASHINGTON, OCT. 18 (AP)-SENATEU PASSAGE SENT TO PRESIDENT JOHNSON TODAY A BILL AUTHORIZING THE GOVERNMENT TO ACQUIRE AND PRESERVE THE RIFLE USED TO KILL PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, AND OTHER ITEMS OF EVIDENCE IN THE ASSASSINATION.

THE COMMISSION HEADED BY CHIEF JUSTICE EARL WARREN THAT INVESTIGATED THE ASSASSINATION RECOMMENDED THAT A LARGE NUMBER OF ITEMS OF PHYSICAL EVIDENCE REMAIN IN THE POSSESSION OF THE GOVERNMENT.

"IN THE YEARS AHEAD ALLEGATIONS AND THEORIES CONCERNING PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION MAY ABOUND," THE SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE SAID IN ITS REPORT ON THE BILL. "TO ELIMINATE QUESTIONS AND DOUBTS THE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE SHOULD BE SECURELY PRESERVED."

THE BILL WOULD AUTHORIZE THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO DESIGNATE, BY PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER, WHICH ITEMS CONSIDERED BY THE WARREN COMMISSION ARE REQUIRED BY THE NATIONAL INTEREST TO BE ACQUIRED AND PRESERVED.

CLAIMS FOR COMPENSATION MUST BE FILED WITHIN ONE YEAR OF THE DATE OF PUBLICATION BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. THE BILL AUTHORIZES THE APPROPRIATE

THE APPROPRIATION OF SUCH FUNDS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO ACQUIRE THE DESIGNATED ITEMS.

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